



**TECHNET**  
THE VOICE OF THE  
INNOVATION ECONOMY

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## **TechNet Names Senator Ben Allen and Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin as “Legislators of the Year” in California**

*Sacramento* — TechNet, the national, bipartisan network of innovation economy CEOs and senior executives, today named Senator Ben Allen and Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin as California Legislators of the Year.

**“We are honored to recognize and award Senator Ben Allen and Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin as TechNet’s Legislators of the Year for 2016,”** said Andrea Deveau, TechNet’s Vice President of State Policy and Politics. **“These legislators are true champions of technology, and we thank them for their leadership and ongoing support of the innovation economy.”**

**Senator Ben Allen** has a deep understanding of the issues facing the innovation economy and has championed meaningful legislation of relevance to the technology industry. As Chair of the Senate Education Committee, Senator Allen continues to fight for California’s youth by helping provide access to 21<sup>st</sup> century skills education and training, including increased focus on STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) fields. Senator Allen has supported historic climate change legislation, and he continues to fight for increased access to the arts in schools, especially in disadvantaged communities.

**Assemblywoman Jacqui Irwin** has been a leader on many issues of importance for the technology and innovation economy. She is an expert on cybersecurity and information security policy and has been a champion on these issues in the legislature. In addition, Assemblywoman Irwin has been a thought leader on clean energy and education policy and has supported future of work initiatives that are critical to ensuring California remains a leader in innovation. As a member of the Commission on the Status of Women and Girls, she is a leading advocate for eliminating inequities that affect California’s women and girls.

TechNet will honor Senator Allen and Assemblymember Irwin at a reception in Sacramento on Monday evening.

**About TechNet**

*TechNet is the national, bipartisan network of technology CEOs and senior executives that promotes the growth of the innovation economy by advocating a targeted policy agenda at the federal and 50-state level. TechNet's diverse membership includes dynamic startups to the most iconic companies on the planet and represents more than two million employees in the fields of information technology, e-commerce, advanced energy, biotechnology, venture capital, and finance. TechNet has offices in Washington, D.C., Silicon Valley, San Francisco, Sacramento, Austin, Boston, Seattle, Albany, and Tallahassee.*

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